March 13, 2012

Professor Pat D. Taylor, ASLA, Director
Graduate Program in Landscape Architecture
P.O. Box 19108
The University of Texas at Arlington
Arlington, TX 76019-0108

Dear Professor Taylor:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its February 24-25, 2012 meeting granted accreditation to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at the University of Texas at Arlington. This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2017. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2017.

In making its decision, the LAAB considered the program’s self-evaluation report, the visiting team report, the institution’s response to the team report, and discussions with team members and program faculty.

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and suggestions for improvement (to be responded to in annual reports). This list was developed by LAAB from the materials reviewed during the meeting.

On behalf of the visiting team, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to them by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

Mary Myers, ASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. James D. Spaniolo, President
University of Texas at Arlington  
MLA Program  
LAAB Meeting  
February 24-25, 2012

Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation:

1. Develop a long-range plan that clarifies the Program vision within the School and within the context of the profession (Standard 1).
2. Provide adequate faculty capacity to accommodate the dual emphasis on both research and design/professional education (Standard 2).

Suggestions for Improvements

1. The curriculum content could be more efficiently delivered to either decrease time to completion or increase electives outside the discipline (Standard 3).
2. The Program should investigate additional ways to enhance the visibility to the profession, general public, and alumni through social media and other technology (Standard 6).
3. Encourage faculty to explore appropriate ways in their courses to engage students with the use of library resources (Standard 7).